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**Remarks**

Claims 16-27 and 29 are pending. Claims 16 and 17 are independent claims. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 has been amended to delete the last phrase, thereby to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs (points 2-5 of the Detailed Action of the Office action dated October 14, 2003).

In the Office action dated October 14, 2003, claim 17 was only rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the claim 16 rewritten as described above for overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, applicant believes that the claim 17 amended herewith is in an allowable state.

Claim 16 has also been amended to more clearly patentably distinguish applicant's originally disclosed invention over the prior art of record.

In particular, the spatial extensions of the rear anchoring post, and of the first and second portions of the arms, together with their continuous and monolithic formation (see page 6, line 2 of the original disclosure) between the respective ends of these elements, have been more clearly defined; as seen in the original Figures, particularly where the arms extend first upwardly and forwardly (first portion) from the upper end of the rear anchoring post (itself extending upwardly and downwardly parallel to the longitudinal axis of the supporting frame), and consequently where the arms extend downwardly and forwardly (second portion) from the first portion (see e.g. Figs. 1 and 2).

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Applicant believes and respectfully submits that none of the prior art references of record may be fairly "read" on the amended claim 16.

In the amended claim 16 in particular, each element has been defined with respective ends between which the respective element exclusively and continuously extends, and the monolithic formation between the particular ends of the respective elements has been defined.

A fair comparison of applicant's claimed structure with those taught in the prior art or record shows:

the arms 15 of **Call (1,419,488)** extend only forwardly and downwardly from the upwardly and downwardly extending rear anchoring post 6, 7, 8, and 9 (see Fig. 2); and

the arms 46 and 48 of **Schlanger et al. (5,145,138)** also extend only forwardly and downwardly from the upwardly and downwardly extending rear anchoring post 32 (see Fig. 4).

There is no fair teaching or suggestion to a person having ordinary skill in the art from all of the prior art of record to arrive at the structural combination as claimed in the independent claim 16. Such claimed structural combination advantageously provides a bottle support structure having a remarkable cost-effectiveness, enhanced mechanical gripping action on the bottle, and a reduced encumbrance with enhanced aerodynamic efficiency, as described at page 1, lines 25-29 of applicant's disclosure. It is submitted that these advantageous results are not fairly taught or suggested to a person having ordinary skill in the art by the known prior art.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully solicits allowance of pending claims 16-27 and 29.

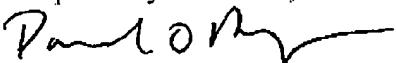
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Respectfully submitted,



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